

THE
TRIUMPH
OF THE CHVRCH
OVER WATER AND
FIRE.

OR

A Thankfull Gratulation for that
Miraculous Deliverance of the Church
and State of Great Britaine, from the Ro-
mish Tophet: or, that barbarous
and savage Powder-plot.

As it was delivered (for substance) in a Ser-
mon at Blacke Fryers in London on the fifth of No-
vember. 1624.

By THEODOR HERING, Minister of the
Word of GOD.

ISA I. 29. 15.

Wee unto them that digge deepe, to hide their counsell from
the Lord; for their works are in darknesse, and they say,
Who seeth vs? Who knoweth vs?

P S A L. 66. 12.

Wee went into fire and into water, but thou broughtest vs out
into a wealthy Land.

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1625.

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THE
TRIUMPH

FOUR MONTHS TO



100

1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be answered. This involves understanding the context and the specific requirements of the task.



TO
THE RIGHT
HONORABLE,

JAMES, LORD LEE;

Baron of *Lee*, Lord High

Treasurer of *England*, one of

the Lords of his MAJESTIES

most Honorable privie Coun-

cell, my dearly honored

PATRON.

RIGHT HONORABLE;



It is an Aphorisme of
State, delivered by a
great and wise King;
When the Righteous are
exalted, the Citty reioy-
ceth. A good Man,
(especially, if a Great
Man) is a common Good. Where Goodnesse

The Epistle Dedicatory.

and Greatnesse, meeete together, that *Happy* conjunction promiseth a *Gracious* aspect. Giue me leaue (being received into and shrouded vnder the wings of your Honors Protection) to congratulate that *High Honor* which *His Maiesty* hath so worthily conferred on your Lord-ship. I know not whether the Place doth more Honor the Man, or the Man the Place. Your Honors *Wisedome*, *Experience*, *Iustice*, *Gravitie*, *Pietie*, what good doe they not presage? If the world faile not exceedingly of their expectation, none more like, to doe God, the King, and his Country better service. Your Honor hath the prayers and hearts of the best, and therefore need not (being armed with such a Coate of Male) feare the calumnies or opposition of the worst. For my-selfe, your Honors favour and countenance afforded me in private, hath obliged me to a publike Gratulation, and emboldened me to dedicate these my Labours to your Honor (to whom I haue given my selfe) as being a chiefe Member of this State, and therefore knowing the state of this Story, better
then

The Epistle Dedicatory.

then my rude draught can pourtray it : wherein your Honor shall see the *Combat, Conflict, and Conquest*, as of the Church in generall, so of *this Church, this State* in speciall. Never any Nation so embroiled, so entangled, came off so faire. Never any intended bloudy *Tragedy*, shut vp with such a reall ioyfull *Catastrophe*. The Matter cannot but yeeld delight to a *Christian*, especially to an *English-man* : If the *Manner* please not, I haue done my endeavour to cloath it with the best Suit my homely *Wardrobe* could affoord, more in so short a time, and on so suddaine a warning I cannot promise.

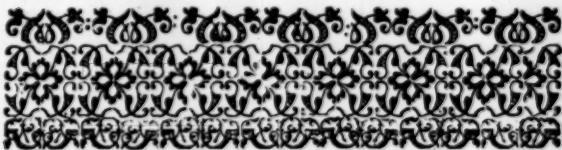
The *Grecians* delivered it as a Proverbiall Precept, that who ever speakes to *Great Men*, his words must be *ἡδίστα καὶ βραχύστα*, *Suavisſima & brevisſima*, as wee English it, *Short and sweete* : What my Discourse wants in the one, (if it be not so sweete as I could wish it) it shall make vp in the other, and be as short as your *Honors* more weightie employments require, to which I remit your *Honor*, wishing many a *happie New-yeare* to your Noble *Lordship*.

The Epistle Dedicatory.

and my Honorable Good *Lady*, with all
encrease of Honor and Happinesse here,
and here-after, remaining

Your Honors *humbly devoted*
in all faithfull observance,

T H E O D : H E R I N G .



¶ To the Reader.



Entle Reader, Little did I
dreame, that these prinate
Meditations, intended
only for a particular Con-
gregation, should be made
thus publicke, to the view
of the whole world. Ho-
mo proponit, Deus dis-
ponit, Man purposeth,

but God disposeth. Importunitie wrung them from me,
not onely beside, but against my intention. My pleas
were many, if they might haue beene heard. The short-
nesse of time allotted for preparation, multitude of other
distrations, which would scarce giue me leaue either
to write what I had Preached, or to review what I
had written before the publication.

The curiositie of the times, and various humour of
men, what one likes, another dislikes, one thinks it
too curious, another too carelesse; one too facile, ano-
ther too obscure, one too loose, another too elaborate.
So impossible is it for any one man, to please all men.

The

To the Reader.

The same sentence which pleaseth one, dislikes another; the same man, that receiues content this houre, is out of charitie the next; so various is man in his thoughts, so vnconstant in his censures to others and himselfe. Adde to this beside the ficklenesse of some, the perversenesse of others, who Malchus-like, heare all with the left eare; and as if the right hand were withered, like Ieroboams, take all with the left.

If some passages accord (in substance) with certaine materiall poynts that are delivered of other writers, though never so different in the carriage and circumstance, they must needes be transcribed. As if diuers men, building on the same foundation, guided by the same Spirit, may not in their Meditations border each on other, vnlesse they borrow one from another.

All these iust allegations were urged by mee, but in vaine; I did but surdo narrare fabulam, my friends would haue no way; for their sakes haue I ventred to put my finger once againe into the fire, though already scorched with the flame. Happily the subiect matter of this Discourse will procure better intertainement.

Many, I confesse, haue written of this Theame, and as our Adversaries querulously complaine, too many. wherefore els doe they say, what? nothing but the Powder-Treason? nothing but the Powder-Treason? when will you haue done with your Cole-worts, twice thrice sodden over. It vexeth them to the Heart, that wee should rubbe this Soare, and make this wound bleed afresh, but by their leaues,

To the Reader.

*leaves, Gods goodnesse, and Their wickednesse
deserves a Monument of Marble, and let them have
it. They love the Treason, but hate the Memory of
it.*

*Illis siquidem pudor est audiendi quæ fecerunt,
Nullus faciendi quæ erubescant.*

*Let all Ages ring of this transcendent match-lesse
mercilesse Plot. Let every true-hearted English-
man, tell what great wonders the Lord hath done
for this Nation, how Hee carried our Fathers in
the yeare Eightie-Eight through the waters :
how Hee carried vs their children this fifth of No-
vember through the fire. Let this be graven with
a Penne of Iron, with the Point of a Diamond,
on the Tables of our hearts, on the Postes of our Hou-
ses, on the Hornes of our Altars, in such Capitall
Letters, as he that runnes may reade them. Let the
Fathers report it to their children, and the chil-
dren to their childrens children, that the Genera-
tion to come, as yet unborn, may discerne the ma-
licious mischievous attempts of Romane Catho-
likes.*

*That Law of Amnesia, let it not here take place;
but by tradition let it successively descend from hand
to hand, from mouth to mouth, from penne to penne,
least in time, Histories, Chronicles, all Narrati-
) (ons*

To the Reader.

ons hereof, seeme to after - Ages incredible, and this Truth bee entertained for a Fable, which indeede exceeds all Heathen Poeticall Fictions as farre as they exceed the Truth.

Their Tenet
is, that the
Bread is transubstantiated
into the body
of Christ.

No marvaile if they who crash their Saviour betweene their teeth, make no bones to crush their Sovereigne. No marvaile if those θεοφαγοι, GOD-eaters, (that make and bake their GOD, and champe him when they haue done) prooue ἀνθρωποφαγοι, MAN-eaters (worse then Cannibals) STATE-devourers. What may they not doe to advance the Catholike Cause?

I shall not need to aggravate their Crueltie, Trecherie, their owne Acts proclaime it to the world. Store of this Coyne is daily Minted at ROME. New proiects are daily forged on the Anvills of the Iesuites braines: So iust is it with GOD to giue them over, that their owne tongues and handes, should be the chiefe Heralds to blazon the barbarous and savage disposition of these Blood-suckers to the whole world.

Vide Acts of
Parliam.
Wiennesse Gar-
ner and others,
who being
iustly execu-
ted for Tray-
tors in Eng-
land, are Ca-
nonized for
Saints at
Rome.

Thus doe they paint themselves in such Orient colours, that no Oratour can more liuely set them out, whose Mercy is Crueltie; Pietie, Butchery; Religion, Faction; Devotion, Sedition: whose Zeale is Fire; Prayers, Powder; Teares, Death; Martyrs, Traytors; Saints, Devils Incarnate.

But my lines swell, I must breake off, though abruptly, least the garment proue too wide for the bodie; least the Preamble exceed the Treatise; Iudge chari-



THE
T R I V M P H
OF THE CHVRCH
OVER FIRE AND
WATER.

ISAIAH 43. 2.

When thou passest through the Waters I will be with thee, and through the Rivers they shall not overflow thee ; When thou walkest through the Fire thou shalt not be burnt ; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.



IN this Chapter wee receiue some Sermon-notes; the Preacher was *Isaiah*, the Hearers, the Inhabitants of *Judah* and *Ierusalem*. The Sermon is worthy such a Teacher ; for descent, of the blood-royall ; for Oratory, he goes beyond all the Prophets of his time,

time, in elegancy of stile. His discourse begins (as learned *Iunius* obserues) at the two and fortieth Chapter, and reaches to the foureteenth Verse of this Chapter, which howsoever vniuſly cut and diſmembred from the former, muſt be reintegrated, and added to the precedent Chapter, to make vp a full and entire diſcourſe. The maine paſſages of his ſpeech may be reduced to three Heads.

A Prophetical Prediction.

A ſharpe Reprehenſion.

A ſweete Conſolation.

In his Prediction this Evangelicall Prophet, and Propheticall Evangeliſt, (not vnworthily ſo ſtilled by ſome of the Antients) as having the Honor of all that ever went before him in his cleare Revelations, (ſeeming rather *Hiſtories* of what was already paſt, then *Propheſies* of ſuch things which after many Centuries of yeares were to be accompliſhed,) giues a lively and excellent deſcription of the *Meſſias*, from the laſt Verſe of the fortieth two Chapter to the ſeuenteenth of this Chapter.

1. His *Qualification* in the adminiſtration of his office, Verſes 1. 2. 3. 4.

2. His *Commiſſion* to warrant the execution of his office, grounded on the vocation of his father, from the fifth to the ninth verſe.

3. The *reciprocall office* of the Church towards Chriſt, breaking forth into Songs and Hymnes of prayſe and thankſ-giuing, verſes 10. 11. 12.

4. The *effect of all*, in reſpect of the Church and the enemies of the Church; which are layd downe *innerſo ordine, deſcriptio neſcripta*. Touching his enemies; their

their Confusion is threatned in a high Rhetoricall
 straine, vers. 13. 14. 15. Touching the Church, her
 Conversion is promised in a Metaphoricall allu-
 sion, vers. 16. 17. 18. Then he fals very appositly by
 way of interrogation into a sharpe *Commination* (his
 second maine passage) laying downe the *sinne* first,
 the blindnesse and heedlesnesse of those carelesse
 and secure both Priests and people, who profited
 nought, neither by the mercies nor iudgements of
 the Lord, ver. 19. 20. 21. The *iudgements* next;
 which (for the further aggravation of their sinne
 and punishment) are amplified first from the *Great-
 nesse* of them, in many phrases very Emphaticall,
 they were *robbed, spoyled, snared, made a prey*, vers.
 22. *the wrath of God poured upon them, like water, con-
 sumed them like fire*, vers. 25. Secondly, from their
 senselesse stupiditie; they could not reade the in-
 dignation of God in those desolations; so much is
 intimated in the question propounded, vers. 24.
 Who gave *Iacob* to a *spoyle*? So much is expressed
 in the reason annexed, vers. 25. *He set him on fire round
 about, yet he knew it not, and it burned him, yet he layd
 it not to heart.*

Now leass the children of God should be discour-
 aged and frighted too much, with those blowes
 that were dealt so thicke among the wicked, hee
 hastens with all speede to strengthen the heart of
 the righteous, and reacheth them this *Cordiall* to
 revieue their drooping spirits. But now, sayth the
 Lord, &c. The Prophet to approue himselfe a wise
 workeman giueth *mercy to whom mercy; iudgement
 to whom iudgement belongs*: and as hee had shewed

himselfe a right *Bonaerges* a Sonne of thunder, so now hee will approue himselfe a true *Barnabas* a Sonne of consolation. He was not so terrible in his *Commination*, but hee will be as sweete in his *Consolation*. This Consolation is deliuered by way of *Iniunction* *feare not*. Then the reason is annexed, or certaine grounds propounded why we should not feare, from *verse* the 2. to the 14. *verse*.

The reasons are { The Nature of God,
drawne partly from { His Workes.

From his *Nature*, he is *Iehovah*, constant to himselfe, euer as good as his word.

From his workes { Past,
{ Future.

Past he instances in three { Creation.
great and grand workes of { Redemption.
{ Vocation.

Future, { Direction, he would guide them through { the Water.
of { Protection, he would guard them in { the Fire.

All this Summarily propounded in the first and second verses. The *Iniunction*, or inhibition is repeated *v. 5*. The Arguments of confirmation they also are againe and againe vrged by former experiences and proofes of the power, providence, and goodnes of God: *v. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. &c.*

Notable it is to consider how these *promises* are pressed, iterated, inculcated: such is the diffidence of our nature that in our extremities wee are apt to reiect all comfort, and therefore the Lord by his Prophet labours to *force* them on vs. I haue dwelt too long in the confines, and borders, now let vs draw neare to the body of my Text; Consider briefly the *scope and parts* of it. These

These wordes carry in them a *promise of Protection*, an engagement royall, wherein the Great Lord of Lords, King of Kings, the High & Mighty, Monarch of Heaven and Earth, giues a safe conuoye to his Spouse passing through the *Arabian desert*, the vast and roaring *wildernes* of this world, that notwithstanding all oppositions and encounters of *fire and water*, he would set her safe in the *Heavenly Canaan*. This is the sum. The parts into which the sentence naturally breakes it selfe, as the principall branches are two. Behold here, the *wrestling of Iacob*; the *Conquest of Iacob* after his wrestling: behold the *Affliction of Ioseph*; the *evasion of Ioseph* out of his affliction: behold, the *troubles of the Saints*, the *Triumph of the Saints* after those troubles: Behold, the *Dangers of the Church*; her *Deliverance* and rescue from those Dangers.

In the wrestling note the { certainty
variety } of those
extremity }
afflictions with which the *Israel of God* doe encounter. Their *certainty* in that he must passe through *fire and water*; the *variety*, in that he must passe not through *water* onely, but *fire* too, not through *fire* onely, but *water* too; vnder both all sorts and kindes of affliction are comprised.

The extremity; *fire & water are those mercilesse elements*, yet they must not passe by these, by the *fire*, by the *water*, but *through the fire*, & *through the water*; what greater danger then (as we say) to run *through fire and water*? Neither is here *water* mentioned onely, but *flouds or rivers of water*, nor *fire* onely,

but a flame too, so the words of the Text carry it; *When thou passest through, &c.* The Triumph follows, where we may obserue

§ The victory acquired. *The floods, &c.*

¶ The Author to whom the glory of this victory must be ascribed, *I will be with thee. Therefore the floods shall not over-flow thee, the flame shall not kindle upon thee.*

Thus by way of resolution haue wee taken this frame asunder, now let vs view the severall parts, and then set it together ioynt by ioynt. We will begin with the connexion, which I cannot passe over, seeing it affords an excellent instruction; *Gods former mercies are pledges of his future favours:* by what he hath done, he shewes vs what he will doe: whom he hath created, whom he hath redeemed, whom he hath called, (they may build on it) they shall be preserved, protected. Thus it holds vsually in temporall mercies; the blessings of God never goe single: wee cannot say to the Lord as *Esau* to *Isaac*, *hast thou but one blessing my father*, but rather (as *Leah* of *Gad*) *a troupe cometh*. The story obserues how he blessed *Ioseph* in his fathers house, in his Masters house, in the prison-house, in his owne house, when a slave, when a Lord, in the stockes, on the throne, where ever he goeth, what ever he doth, still *Ioseph* prospers. See it in *Iacob*; though *Laban* change his wages ten times, yet the weakest sheepe goe to *Laban*, the strongest fall to *Jacobs* share. See it in *Abram*, in *Lot*: the Lord reueales himselfe to *Abram*, doth that for *Abram*, as he had not done for any person or Nation. Is that all? No, hee blesseth him

Gen. 39. 11.

Gen. 30. 42.

Gen. 12. 1.

him as in his Soule, so in his estate too: *Abram* growes exceeding rich, *Lot* and he their wealth, *Gen. 13. 2. 9.* parts them, one Country cannot hold them: But this holds especially, and infallibly, in spirituall mercies, one blessing here euer drawes on another, so chained they are, and linked together, as one still treades on the heele of another, the lesser makes way for the greater. Take one famous instance, in stead of a thousand. It is presented by *Paul*, in that Golden chaine with the linkes of it knit together, *Rom. 8. 29. 30.* Those which he knew before, he also predestinated, moreover those whom he predestinated hee also called, whom hee called, them also hee iustified, and whom he iustified, them also he glorified, Loe here is that *Adamantine chaine*, one linke so fastened to another, that Hell-gates cannot sunder them. So *Philip. 1. 6.* the same Apostle perswades himselfe, that he that had begun that good worke in them, would finish it; to one favour of *Inchoation*, he will adde the other of *Consummation*.

The strength of this diduction was notably em-
 proved by *David* and *Paul* both. *David* reasons thus, he that rescued him from the claw of the *Lyon*, and the paw of the beare, would not leaue him as a prey in the hand of that vncircumcised *Philistim*. *1. Sam. 17. 34. 35-36.*
Paul thus, he hath delivered vs, he doth deliver vs, in whom I trust he will deliver vs; if this will carry force in temporall, it holds a *Maiori* in spirituall cases; as in privative, so in positive blessings. *2. Cor. 1. 10.*
 From the Greater.

The reasons hereof may be drawne, partly from the bounty, partly from the *Immutabilitie* of the Almighty. His bountie is such, that where he begins

(I will not say he knowes not) sure I am he cannot or at least he will not make an end. First he creates them, then redeemes them, then calls them, then protects them; and yet comes not to a full period. The Lord is no niggard in bestowing his favours, but liberall and franke. His Bounty like a perpetuall Spring, runs continually, over-flowes all bankes. He giues exceeding abundantly *above all that wee are able to aske or thinke*: observing **Modum sine Modo*.

Ephes. 3. 10.

* His Measure
is without
measure.

Exod. 3. 14.

παρ ᾧ οὐκ
ἐνι παραλλα-
γὴ ἡ τροπὴς
ἀποκρίσ-
μα.

The second ground is his *Immutabilitie*, whether of his *Nature* or *Decree*. In regard of his *Nature*, he is ever (*I am*): if mercifull in former times, he is as mercifull for the present, and will be for the future. *I am*. 1. 17. He is without variableneſſ or shadow of change. His Decree is as vnchangeable as his Nature. His promises, his purposes are not vnstable, yea and nay, but yea and Amen; yesterday, to day, the same for ever. 2 Cor. 1. 10. He doth not loue one day, hate the next: Blesse one day, curse the next; assist this day, forsake the next.

Vſe.

Gen. 13. 15.
17. 7.

A notable staffe to vnderprop our faith. He will be *Iehovah* (Exod. 34. 6. 7.) ever the same constant to himselfe and his servants. Remember the dayes that are past, looke backe to the times of old: hath he beene the God of thy fathers, he will be thy God also, (the promise is made to them and their seed) hath he delivered their fore-fathers, he will not flinch from their children, if they degenerate not, but tread in their fathers steppes.

Let vs apply this to our selues first in particular; so our Nation next in generall. Hath hee created thee?

thee? hath he redeemed thee? hath hee adopted thee? he will deliuer thee, he will sanctifie thee, he will glorifie thee. Treasure vp experiences of forepassed fauours, it will keepe thy head aboue water from sinking in present euills: needes must that Man swimme, which is held vp by the chinne; that Soule cannot stagger which is vnderpropped by such presidents and patternes, I may not dwell in specials, this reacheth to our whole Nation. *Bonum quo communius eo melius.* Neuer any people enioyed more and greater testimonies of his fauour, why may not we expect the continuance of his loue? He hath created vs after his owne Image, redeemed vs from the *slauery of sinne*, from that worse then *Egyptian bondage*, from the *yoake of Rome* and *tyranny of Antichrist*; he hath called vs by name, entred into couenant with vs, stricken a firme League; Hee hath taken vs for his people; wee challenge him for our God. Let vs but keepe to him, he will not start from vs. Let the Church of God euer magnifie the riches of his super abundant grace that *ladeth vs with his blessings*, and not onely *cherisheth vs with the remembrance of old fauours*, but doubles the Benefits, by giuing them as *pledges of future and greater*. As the first fruites promised a plentiful crop, and as the earnest (though small) assureth vs of the whole bargaine: so the least mercy is great in this, that it is but the *first fruites*, but a beginning, but an earnest, a pledge of more and greater. Thus may we in generall, in particular, if the fault be not our owne, from that wee haue already receiued, promise to our selues farre greater matters for the time to come. But

Good the
more comon,
the more
Good.

Hosea. 1. 10.

Deut. 32.4.

what doe I staye so long in the *skirtes*, let vs now as *Moses* ascended Mount *Nebo*, so climbe this Mount in my Text, and there take a double prospect: first we may looke backward, and there view the *Israel of God* now passing through the *Red Sea*, now stung with fiery Serpents in the wilderness of this World: wee may then looke forward and see them victorious ouer *fire and water*, in their heauēly *Canaan*, like their Lord and Master, as here crowned with thornes, so there crowned with victory and glory. It seemes good to their heavenly Father, to entertaine them with *stormes* first, and after they haue runne some dangerous hazards, to bring a gracious *calme*.

The affliction of *Ioseph*, is not nakedly propounded, but notably amplified, from *the certainty, the variety, the extremity of it*. The certainty is intimated, this the Lord takes for granted, that his Spouse must through *fire and water*. When thou passest &c. As if the Lord had expressed his minde in other tearmes. Mistake me not, I neuer intended to secure my chosen wholly from danger, or to set them out of the reach of affliction; that the water should not touch them, nor they touch the water; that the fire should not come neare them, nor they come neare the fire; but to get my selfe a name and glory, to magnifie my power and pittie, by securing them in the water, that the *flouds* shall not ouer-flow them, by securing them in the fire that the flame shall not kindle vpon them. The Saintes must haue their *Purgatory on earth*; that of water to wash off the filth and soile contracted by sinne; that other of fire to purge out the drosse of corruption.

The

The Conclusion standes as firme as Heaven and Earth.

The Church Militant, while shee remains in this vaile of teares, and valley of misery, is not privileged from miseries and calamities. Let her be the *Darling of Heaven*, the favorite of the great King, the worke of his hand, his Redeemed, his adopted, his Beloved one, no bonds, no entirenes with God can plead an exemption. Shee is the Lords Shippe, his *Marchant-royall*, and therefore must expect stormes while shee Sailes on the tempestuous Sea of this world. His *Lilly*, and therefore must grow in the midst of *thornes*; his *Rose*, and therefore must be enuironed with prickles; his *Gold*, and therefore must be cast ever and anon into the fiery furnace; his *Campe-royall*, and therefore must be ever skirmishing; his *vine*, and therefore ever and anon must be pruned. This is the place of her *Labour*, no rest from her labour, till her worke be at an end; no end of her worke, till an end be put to these dayes of sinne. *Blessed are they that die in the Lord, for they shall rest from their labours.* So much was shadowed out and typified by the Riding of Noahs Arke on the Waters; by the *smoaking fire-brands*, presented to Abram; by the *wrestling of Iacob*; by the *Burning Bush*, presented to Moses: so much is plainly expressed by our Saviour; *In the world you shall haue trouble.* Ioh. 16. 33. *He that will be my Disciple, must take up his crosse and follow me.*

Rev. 14. 13.

Gen. 7. 17.

Gen. 15. 17.

Gen. 22. 24.

Exod. 3. 2.

The ground hereof may be drawne, partly from the appointment of God, partly from the malice of Satan; partly from that correspondence which

should ever be maintained betweene the *Head* and the *Members*.

First, *It is* that Decree enacted by the *High Court of Parliament in Heaven*, a Statute more firme then the Lawes of the *Medes and Persians*, that the way to Heaven shall be *strawed with crosses*; that every one that will live godly in *Christ Iesus*, shall suffer persecution. This is that *thorny path* which is chalked out as the *common Rhode*, leading to *Glory*. No man must expect two *Heavens*, one here, another hereafter. Would you know the ground of this Sanction? though his *Will* be a *Law*, though it be a *saucinesse* to say to the *King* (*much more to the King of Kinges*) *What doest thou?* Yet sith the wise God is pleased to condescend so farre vnto our weakenes, as to yeeld an account of his actions, know it tends much to his *glory*, and the good of the *Saints*. It tends to the *Glory of his wisdom*, that fetcheth light out of *darknes*, life out of *death*, *Heaven* out of *Hell*; to the *glory of his power*, that brings strength out of *weaknes*.

2 Tim. 3. 12. So the Oracle to Paul, *My grace is sufficient for thee. My power is made perfect through weaknesse*. It turnes to the good of the *Saints*, who are corrected with his children, that they might not be condemned with the world. Whom the Lord lones he chastens. There is much folly bound in the heart of the childe (as that *Mirror of wisdom* gives out in his select divine Aphorismes) but the rod of correction will fetch it out. Blessed is the Man whom thou chastisest (*O Lord*) and teachest thy Law, so David the Father of so wise a Sonne. These *Nocumenta* are *Documenta*, his Corrections are *In-*structions. Wee see by experience these *Starres* shine.

Sic volo, sic iubeo; sicut pro ratione voluntas.

Ecclef. 8. 4.

2 Cor. 12. 9.

Prov. 3. 12.

Heb. 12. 6.

Revel. 3. 19.

Prov. 22. 15.

shine brightest in the darkest night; these *sheepe* thrive best in the *saltest Marshes*, and tread surest in the *roughest way*; these *Diamonds* glitter most in the night; this *corne* is purest from *chaffe* when vnder the *saile*: these *torches* blaze most when they are most beaten. *Abrams faith*, *Iobs patience*, *Dauids Repentance*, *Salomons Recantation*, *Manassehs humiliation*, all these, with thousand more, giue evident demonstration, that the graces of the Spirit (like the *Arabian Spices*) never yeeld a more *fragrant smell* then when they are punned and bruized together in the *Morter of Affliction*. This is the first reason, God hath appointed it, and that for his *glory* and our *good*. *Deus enim adeo bonus est, vt nihil mali sineret, nisi etiam adeo esset potens, vt ex quolibet malo possit elicere bonum*. Thus *Austin*, Such is the *Goodnesse* of God, that he would permit no *euill*, vnlesse he knew his *Power* to be such, as he could draw *good* out of *euill*.

Vide Christi-
anis sovereign
Salue for e-
uery Soare.

Add to this (in the second place) the enuy of *Satan* and his Instruments. The *Deuill* will at least make vs haue a wet *seede-time*, if he cannot hinder our *ioyfull harvest*; he will be sure to make vs liue discomfortably in earth, if he cannot hinder vs from raining gloriously in Heaven; he will *bruise* our *heeles*, if he cannot *breake* our *head*. His instruments carried with the spleene of their father the *Deuill*, will trouble vs, though they cannot hurt vs, with *Midianitish wiles*, they will vex the *Israel of GOD*, whom they cannot Conquer: these snarling, bauling Curses will barke and snatch at the *Moone*, though they cannot stay her course. If wee doe but set our faces towards *Ierusalem*; if wee but steale a

looke to *Heaven*-ward, these *Samaritans* will be straight on our backs.

The last Reason stands with *equitie*, that wee
 Heb. 5. 7. 8. might be made conformable to our High - Priest,
 who was consecrated by afflictions. The Head was a
 Man of sorrow, and shall the body know no sorrow ?
 The head was crowned with thornes, and all goare
 blood (*tota cicatrix*) shall the body be decked with
 Ioh. 13. 16. *Roses* ? Shall the servant looke to fare better then
 his Master; if they haue called me *Beel-zebub*, how much
 Luk. 24. 26. more those of my family, as the Lord fore-warnes his
 Disciples. If that hold, *Oportet Christum pati*, then
 much more, *Oportet Christianum pati*, so one of the
Ancients. Must Christ suffer ? is there not the same
 Must, for euery Christian ? Whence another of the
 Fathers descants on the name, *Christianus quasi*
Crucianus.

Vse I. Let this checke those fond Christians, whether
 lazy Protestants, or ignorant Papists; the former
 with it were, the latter affirme it, that ease, peace,
 calmes, and faire-weather, are the markes and bad-
 ges of a true Church; which they set out of the
 reach of persecution, which they make to be blef-
 sed with a perpetuated succession of an vninterrupt-
 ed peace, plentie, and tranquillitie; as if they one-
 ly (contrary to the ordinary course) must be car-
 ried to heaven on a feather-bed; as if it were pos-
 sible to saile through the tempestuous Seas of this
 world, and never meete with a storme; as if all crof-
 ses to them were turned into roses and rushes; as if
 the servant should be more cockered then the Son:
Austin puts this out of doubt, *Vnicum filium habuit*
sine

sine peccato, neminem habuit sine flagello. God had one Sonne that knew no sinne, never any that felt no smart. What is, if this be not repugnant to the plain Text, and strong current of holy Writ? Which propheties not of peace but of warre, not of securitie but of calamitie; not of sleeping in a whole skinne, but of bearing in our bodies the wounds of the Lord Iesus, not of a smooth gale, but of many crosse, nay, adverse blaits. It is given a note rather of that Whore of Babylon, to sit as a Queene, a Lady, having her mountaine so strongly founded, so rarely assaulted, that shee never dreames of a change, When the Daughters of Sion; hang their Harpes upon the Willows, and sit weeping at the waters of Babel: It is for Moab rather to be settled on her lees, because shee is not shaken from vessell to vessell: When the Israel of God are tossed from post to pillar: from my youth up haue they afflicted me, will Israel say from my youth up, &c. It is for the Generation of Esau to carry the world before them in a continued line of succession, Duke vpon Duke. Twelue Dukes were found in Edom, when the children of Iacob were labouring at the Brick-kils in Egypt. It is for the foole in the Gospel to sing a lullaby to his Soule, Soule take thine ease, &c. Who had his Paradise, his Consolation here. Wee that expect that Glory to come, must not looke for an Heaven vpon earth.

Revel. 18. 7.

Ierc. 48. 11.

Psal. 119. 1. 2.

Gen. 36. 9.
10. &c.Luk. 12. 19.
20.

Let this lesson those holy Ones what to expect in this world, even that which they haue ever found, fire and water. Oppositions, troubles, and persecutions. God will allow no peace to the wicked, the wicked will afford no peace to the godly.

Vse 2.

In.

In the midst of our discomforts, let this be our comfort, it is the common Lot of the Saints, why should we shrug at it? When so many haue broken the ice before vs; since it is no new thing; why should we thinke it a strange thing to heare or feele the *fiery tryalls*? Since it is the will of God, *bear* it patiently, since it makes for the *Glory* of God, glory in it exceedingly; sith the *Good* will be our owne, take it thankfully; so shall your *croffe* bee your *crowne*, so shall you be as glorious in your greatest misery, as the wicked are miserable in their greatest glory.

I haue done now with the *Afflictions of Ioseph*; and yet I haue not done neither; giue me leaue to recall my selfe, the Spirit puls me backe, this is not all. The *Sponse* is not subject to affliction onely, (*this is but the beginning of sorrow*) but to *many and great afflictions*. *Many* for *varietie*; *great* for *extremitie*. Shee must through *fire* and *water*. Both these streames runne into one and the same fountaine; the matter will be Co-incident, that wee may not *enterfiere*, let vs wrappe both in one, and giue you the Doctrine in the words of the *Kingly Prophet*.

Doct. 2.

Many are the Tronbles of the righteous; that is, *many* and *great*, *Multa & magna*, so much the Originall word doth intimate. *Psal.* 34. 19. For their number *many*; for their measure *great*; for their nature *weightie*. Take the *ſt*: first, that it is so, and then the *ſt*: *ſt*, why it is so, as they speake in the Schooles.

To begin with my Text, here is not *fire* onely, but *water* too, not *water* onely, but *fire* too: *fire* and *water*
ter

ter comprehend all sorts of tryals; there is the *varietie*. Againe, here is fire and water; those two mercilesse Elements, (*good servants, but cruell Masters*) which comprehends the greatest danger, the extremest misery that can befall a man. When the tender Father in the Gospell (seeking the cure of his possessed sonne) would stirre vp the bowels of our Saviour to commiserate the distressed *Demoniaks*, how doth he paynt out the crueltie and tyranny of the Devill? he delivers it to the full in these emphaticall termes; *Loe, He casts him sometime into the fire, sometimes into the water*, and not able to hold any longer, he bursts out into teares, *Lord take pittie on my Sonne*. Yet to add to the heape of their misery, here is not *water* mentioned onely, but *waters, rivers, floods of water*; not *fire* onely, some few sparkles, but *flames of fire*, there is the *extremitie*.

To this of *Isaiah* answereth that complaint of *David*. *Psal. 42. 7. Abyssus abyssum invocat; one deepe calleth upon another deepe*. Here is a depth of misery to note the *extremitie*; deepe and deepe, to note the *varietie*: neither was this to some one member that might fall into these quagmyres, but the whole Church makes her moane; *Many a time haue they afflicted me from my youth, may Israel now say, many a time haue they afflicted me from my youth up. Psal. 129. 12. That chosen vessell forwarnes the Anticethians, that through many tribulations, they must enter into the Kingdome of God. Act. 14. 22. As for the Apostle himselfe, he had his share as deepe as any, perils by Sea, perils by Land, &c. Strange it is to see what varietie of troubles, what a world of afflicti-*

2 Cor. 6. 4. ons (as it were an Army of Pykes, or a thicket of
 11. 13. thornes) *Paul* ran through. *David*, a Man after
 1 Cor. 4. 9. 13. *Gods owne heart*, what troubles vnder-went he at
 home? What dangers abroad? What from his e-
 nemies? What from his friends? What inward af-
 fliction? What outward persecution? As a man
 borne to sorrow, that scarce ever came where tran-
 quillitie grew. So that *Mirroure of patience Iob*, how
 came his crosses and losses thicke and three-fold,
 Iob. 1. 14. 15. like showers of haile-shot; *Velut unda undam sequi-*
tur, as waue followes waue in the midst of the Sea.
Salomon (Proverb. 24. 16.) tels vs they come by
troupes, by *seauens*, a certaine number put for an vn-
 certaine; *many come*, that is, *certaine*; but *how many*,
 that is, *uncertaine*.

Who can number the *starres of the skie*? Who
 can number the *drops of the water*? Who can num-
 ber the *sparkles of the fire*? Who can count the *dust*
of Iacob? Or who can number the *fourth part of the*
afflictions of Ioseph? But it is their *nature* I must in-
 sist on rather then their *number*; did not *Experience*
 (the Mistressse of fooles) saue me that labour.

The dearest children of God (as wee often finde
 and feele) are they not put to great extremities, to
 shrewd plunges, to desperate pinches? What a strait
 was the Church brought to, thinke you, when the
Edomits cryed, *Downe with it, downe with it, even to*
the ground? What should I protract time to instance
 in persons, in places? What meane these and the
 like phrases; *The plowers haue ploughed on my backe,*
they made long furrowes. Psal. 129. 3. And againe,
 Psal. 66. 12. *Thou hast caused men to ride over our*
heads;

heads, wee went through fire and water; the same allusion which is here in my Text. This is that *bread* of affliction, that *water* of affliction; that *gall* and *wormwood* wherewith he feedes his; that *Baptisme* which our Saviour forespeakes to the Sonnes of *Zebedeus*; *Yee shall drinke indeed of that cup that I shall drinke of, and be baptized with the baptisme wherewith I shall be baptized.* If you take it literally, was not *Noah* carried through the water? and the *Hebrew* babes did they not passe through the *flouds*? The three Children went they not through the *fire*, howbeit the flame kindled not vpon them? Those blessed *Martyrs*, how many thousands were sent vp to heauen *Elias*-like in *fiery Chariots*? If you take it *spiritually*, these *waters* had even entred into *Dauids* soule, he was not *drenched* onely, but almost *swallowed* vp of those waues. *Ps. 69. 1. 2.* *Iob* complaines that the Lord had set him as a *Butt*; that the *arrowes* of the *Almightie* stucke fast in his *ribbes*, the *venom* whereof had drunke vp his *bloud*; that he was *hedged in as a Whale*. *Jonah* cryes from the bottome of the *Whale*, from the belly of *Hell*. *Jonah. 2. 3. 4. 5.*

Mat. 10. 38.

19.
Luk. 12. 50.

Gen. 7. 18.

Exod. 1. 22.

Dan. 3. 23.

Iob. 16. 13.

Iob. 7. 12.

More *Generall*, when holy *Abel* lay bleeding vnder the bloody knife of his butcherly brother *Caine*, was not the Church at a desperate pinch? When *Isaac* lay bound on the *Altar*, *Abrahams* hand now stretched out, and vp ready to giue the *fatall stroake*, was not the Church at the last cast gasping for life? When the *Hebrewes* were pressed, in a manner oppressed with that loe intollerable *Egyptian* bondage, when forced to march through the midst of that *red Sea*, (*figuring the blood, red Sea*

Gen. 4. 8.

Gen. 22. 10.

Exod. 14. 22.

2 Kings 18.
11.

of persecution, through which all the Israel of God must wade) when those *Assyrian Bandes*, the *Caldean armies*, brake their bankes, and like a violent over-swelling torrent swept all before them as a generall inundation, was not Gods *Sion* in the midst of the waters? when the Roman Troups put all to the fire and the sword, not leauing one stone vpon a stone, of that famous *Citty and Temple*, (the wonder of the world) not throwne downe: or rather in the times of those ten *fiery persecutions*, when *Nebuchadnezers Oven* was heated *seuen times hotter* then ordinary, was not the *Bush* all in a flame? was not *Sion* in the midst of the fire?

What might be the reason will some demand, that the troubles of the righteous should be so many and great? the same in a manner with the former. It falls out thus, partly in respect of God, partly in respect of their enemies; in respect of themselves partly, not principally.

Exod. 14. 11.
12.

Iehovah permits it, ordaines it, orders it. Why? the more and the greater their afflictions are, the more doth his mercy shine, the greater doth his wisdom and power appeare in their deliuerance, in their rescue. When *Israel* was euery way distressed, the sea before them, the army of the *Egyptians* behinde them pressing at their heeles, the high trowing *Mountaines* hemming them in on all sides; now will the Lord get him honor vpon *Pharaoh* and all his host. *Exod. 14. 4.* Now will the Lord of Hostes march valiantly, and overthrow the horse and the rider. When the people of God were scattered over the foure corners of the world: now for
God

God to turne againe the *captivittie of Iacob*, as the *streame back-ward*; to bring them home weeping with their faces toward *Sion*, this shall be to mee (sayth the Lord) an *everlasting name, ioy and honor*, now he shewes him-helfe a God. Isaiah 43. 13.
14.

The greater the streame is, the skill of the *Pilot* if hee steere the shippe aright, appears to be the greater; the more desperate the disease is, the cure is the more glorious; this may be one ground, why the troubles of the righteous are many and mighty, that the mighty and *manifold wisdom, power, goodnes of Iehovah*, might shine out in their *full glory*, to the admiration of Men and Angels.

Another reason followes, because their enemies are many and great; Their malice *great*, their subtilty *great*, their power *great*, their sedulity *great*, their cruelty *great*. Consider their subtilty, the *lie Midianites* have a thousand wiles and wayes to vex and beguile the plaine hearted downe-right *Israelites*. Consider their malice; there is an eternal enmity put by God himfelfe between the seede of the woman, and the seede of the Serpent, which how euer smothered sometimes as it were in the ashes, yet euer and anon is blowne vp by the bellows of vnplacable malice, and breakes forth into an open flame, so vnvariable it is, that nothing but the heart-blood of the Lambe will content those rauenous Woolues. Consider their cruelty; as for *craft*, they are *foxes*, and for *subtilty*, *Serpents*: so for *cruelty*, *roaring ramping Lions*, that will leaue no designe be it neuer so barbarous vnattempted, but will prosecute it to the utmost of their power. Con-

Gen. 13.

Ephes. 6. 12.

sider their *sedulitie*, as the Devill their Master himselfe goes about continually, seeking whom hee may deuoure; so his Impes, they *compasse Sea and Land* to make a *Proselite* of their owne, and to render him ten-fold more the childe of the Devill. Their Enemies are many, their name is *Legion*; their enemies are mighty, they fight with *Principalities and Powers*, which are in high places, no marueile if their troubles be many and mighty. Their enemies are many and mischeiuous, cruell and barbarous, needes must their tryals be many, their case grieuous, their estate dangerous.

Finally they may thank themselves for it; their finnes are many, their finnes are mighty; many finnes cause many afflictions, mighty finnes procure mighty troubles. Lay not the blame then on *Religion*, but on thy *Corruption*. Gods dearest children will venture on noisome meate and hurtfull poison; they will drinke downe the very gall of *Aspes*, they will be walking neare Hels mouth, their Father therefore takes them by the heeles and makes them belieue he will throw them in. They will bee dallying with the fire, no marueile if they be scorched with the flame; they will be running into the water, no marueile if they be drowned in the waues: they will be laying the Serpent in their bosome, no marueile if they be stung with that Scorpion. They defile themselves with grosse sins, and therefore must haue much washing; they take in the *deadliest poison*, and therefore must haue *working* Physicke: while corruption is so strong, let them looke for it; many and mighty corruptions will

will procure many and mighty afflictions.

The emprovement is made by the Apostles, *Vse 1.*
thinke it not strange, concerning the fiery tryall, - so 1. Pet. 1. 7.
Peter ; Count it great ioy when you fall into divers temptations, so Iames. If wee chap. 4. 13.
passē vnder seuerē sharpe corrections, and be forced Iames 1. 3.
to drinke of gall and wormewod, this is no new
thing. Those whom hee loues most hee corrects
most ; and if wee feele not the rod at all, well may Heb. 12. 8.
we suspect we are bastards not children : when wee
reade of the troubles of David, when we heare of the
afflictions of Ioseph, when we heare, or see, or reade
of the calamities of our Brethren, let it not dismay
vs too much : What though the Churches in Bohe-
mia, in the Palatinate, in the Low-Countries, be now
floating in the midst of the water ? What though in
the midst of the fire, in the furnace ? What if that
fire which was kindled in Bohemia, which flamed in
France, which hath burnt vp and deuoured the Pa-
latinate, some sparkles thereof should fly ouer-sea ?
(quod omen Deus avertat, which God forbid) why
should they or we, thinke much to pledge our Sani-
our, in that cup which he began to vs ? hee dranke
the very lees and dregges of that mixed wine, we doe
but sip and tast the top of it. Let our troubles be
neuer so many, Christs were more ; neuer so great,
Christs were greater. He went through the water,
when he sweat drops of blood ; he went through the
fire, when like that good Phœnix, he continued on
the crosse, fluttering his winges ouer the burning
coales of his Fathers indignation, till by suffering
the extremitie of it, he quenched that flame with
his

his owne blood, which els had burnt to the bot-
tome of Hell.

Pse. 2.

This secondly affoordes Comfort, as to all the
members of Christ in particular, who ~~are~~ are bap-
tized, whether *Baptismo fluminis*, or *baptismo flami-
nis*, with this Baptisme of fire or water; so especial-
ly to these our Churches, and this our State of Great
Britaine in Generall. If the mightie God of *Iacob*
had not called vs by name, and given to this *Io-
seph* that parti-coloured coate (the livery of his loue)
the Covenant of grace, wee should neuer haue beene
so maligned by Satan, so hated of the world, so
persecuted by Sea and Land, so driven through
fire and water; wee should never haue beene hated
so mortally, handled so cruelly, butchered so bar-
barously, plotted against so diuellishly: If any Na-
tion vnder the Cope of Heauen can apply this *pro-
pheticke*, this *promise*, to themselves, wee may chal-
lenge it, and finde it verified *literally*, *spiritually*, eue-
ry way of these Churches of this State; wee haue
gone through the fire, and through the water; Ma-

Psal. 129. 1. 2.

ny a time haue they afflicted me from my youth vp may
England now say; many a time haue they afflicted mee
from my youth vp: Remember Edom (may England
cry) remember Edom, O God, which said, Downe with
it, downe with it, even to the ground; wee will raze
out their name and memoriall from vnder Heauen.
True indeede, while wee carried the marke of the
Beast in our foreheads, while wee bare (like *Balaams*
Ass) that *Balaam* of Rome, and suffered his intole-
rable exactions, giuing vp our selues, our states,
goods, soules, as slaues and vassals of *Antichrist*;
who

who but the *English*? Who more favoured at the Court of *Rome*? While our treasure was *inexhaustus puteus* (as that Pope scoffingly) a *Mine* that could not be *drained*: that which the *Indies* are to *Spaine*, that was *England* to *Rome*, now wee were his *Holiness white Sonnes*, he our *Ghostly father*, what blessing had we from him? What Immunities? What red hartes? What Indulgences? What not? the *Devill smiles while he is pleased*; but ever since the time of *Reformation*; so courageously attempted by King *Henry the eight*; so devoutly prosecuted by that Noble *Iofias*, whose early holines, and timely seeking of the Lord deserues an everlasting Monument; so happily seconded, promoted (after some interruption) by our famous *Deborah*, that late match-lesse, peere-lesse *Queene of ever blessed memory*; so constantly perpetuated, consummated, and to this day continued by our most wise and *Renowned Souveraigne Lord, King IAMES*. Ever since wee have shaken off that thousand times worse then *Egyptian* bondage; ever since wee brake off that iron yoke of *Babel*, that so long held vs vnder; the *Devill hath shewed himselfe in his likenesse*; what Buls haue roared from *Rome*? What Excommunications? What Anathema's haue bin Thundred out by that *Man of sinne*? What cursings, with Bell, Booke, & Candle? How haue wee beene adiudged for *Heretickes*? sentenced to flames, reputed worse then *Infidels*, then *Dogges*. One of their *Jesuites* giues vp himselfe for damnd, if such *Heretickes* as wee can be saued. How is it made a meritorious Act, a worke of *super-errigation*, to murder our King, to blow vp our State,

King Edward
the sixth.

Queene Eli-
zabeth.

Vide Dr. Hall.

Pfal. 2.

D^r Hall in his
Panygericke.

to desolate and depopulate our *Kingdome*. Many have beene our Troubles, many and great; many secret conspiracies, many open incurfions, many forraigne attempts of enemies abroad, many intestine insurrections of bosome vipers at home: How long haue wee carried *fire* in our bosomes? and doe not our feete yet tread vpon *Scorpions*? As many, so great haue beene our Troubles. Great enemies were stirred vp; *mighty Princes*, the most *potent*, and *puissant Kings* of the earth, friends to the *Beast*, how were they enraged? How did *they bandy together against the Lord*, and against his *Annoynted*? Great Stratagems were laid, even as deepe as Hell, to the vtter ruination, both of *Church and State*, to the finall extirpation of our name and memoriall from vnder Heaven. How oft hath the knife beene at our *throate*? What treasons? What conspiracies were hatched in the dayes of our late *Queene Elizabeth* (that *wonder of Women*, and *mirrowr of her sex*)? No sooner was the *fire* quenched in one corner, but it breakes forth in another place; no sooner was one wound closed, but another bleeds afresh: Many a time were wee at the pits brinke, and knew it not, destinated as *sheepe to the slaughter*; our Land quartered, or Doome prophecied; *When that Snow melts* (as they gaue it out triumphantly) *wee shall see a flood*, and pointed to the *Gray-hayres* of that then *living Empresse*. But about all, two especiall dangers (never to be forgotten) did threaten this Nation; never any people vnder Heaven were put to the like straits. You cannot forget that famous *Climactericall yeare Eighty-Eight*; That

Senacherib of Spaine, how confident was he to haue swallowed vs vp quicke at one morrell? How did he presume to command with his *Inuincible Navy* Sea and Land? How did he presume to put a bridle and make a bridge over the *Ocean*, to over-run this spot of earth in one instant? Now I trow you were in the midst of the waters. This *fifth of November* mindes vs of another pinch as great, if not greater then the former; there wanted but the kindling of a match, to haue set this Citty all in a flame of fire; this Country and Kingdome all in a flame of Combustion. Were wee not now in the midst of the fire? If the Lord had not beene with vs, that water had overwhelmed all; if the Lord had not beene with vs, that fire had beene kindled, and wee all had perished in that flame.

And thus are wee fallen suddenly, from the danger to glance at the *Deliverance*, (blessed be That *Iehovah*, that hath linked them so together, that wee cannot speake of the one, but wee must acknowledge the other.) Now since I am fled into this pleasant field, I will not step backe; but entreate you to follow me with your attention, and as you haue tasted of the bitter, so now close your Stomacks with the sweete; which I haue reserved for the last, as being the best and chiefeest matter intended for this dayes discourse, and most suitable to the occasion of our present meeting.

Hitherto you haue heard onely of the troubles, now followes the triumphs of the *Saints*; wherein was offered to our consideration, as wee found in the resolution of the Text.

1. The victory it selfe, which is acquired ; *The floods shall not over-flow thee ; the flame shall not kindle upon thee.*

2. The Author of this victory, to whom the glory of the day must be ascribed, in those words ; *I will be with thee.*

The Conquest is further commended from the time ; *When thou, &c.* It shall come *seasonably, opportunely*, when they were in their greatest difficulties, in their greatest perplexitie ; then, even *then I will be with thee, &c.*

The afflictions of *Ioseph* are neuer so many, neuer so great, but they shall find an evasion. The Church can never be so straitned, but first or last, it shall be enlarged ; the Church can neuer be so distressed, but sooner or later it shall be relieued. Her case is oft dangerous, never desperate. Let her walke in the valley of the shadow of death with *David* ; let her be cast into the Denne of Lyons with *Daniel* ; with *Ieremy*, let her be plunged into the deepe dungeon ; let her be projected with the *Hebrew babes* (as was noted) into the midst of the waters ; with the three children, and with those innumerable troupes of *Martyrs*, into the midst of the fire ; what though the members of her body with *Isaiah* passe vnder the Saw ? with *James*, are cut off by the sword ? let their carkasses be mangled and chopt into pieces, their bodies scorched, burned, racked, roasted ; come what can come, the *Israel of God* may be pressed, cannot be oppressed ; though sorrow may befall them in the evening, ioy shall arise in the morning. Vnto the righteous ariseth light in darknesse.

Psal. 23. 4.

Dan. 6. 16.

*Premi potest
ecclesia opprimi
non potest.
Psal.* 30. 5.
Psal. 112. 4.

This

This is the Close, as *David* had learned in the Schoole of Affliction, Many are the troubles of the righteous, but the Lord delivereth them out of all; delivered they are not from one, or few, or many, but from all. Marke the end of the upright man, his latter end is Peace; there may be stormes in the way, but in the end there will follow an eternall Calme. This Shippe may be tossed, cannot be drowned; this Mount *Si-* on may be moved, cannot be removed.

Psal. 111. 6.

Shee hath the word of *Iehovah* to secure her, a word more firme then Heaven. The Lord of Hosts will come in to her succour, He comes with *salvation under his wings*, He comes in seasonably to helpe at a dead lift. Mans greatest extremitie is Gods fittest opportunitie; when no hope in earth, then expect helpe from Heaven, then the Almighty comes riding on the Clouds, and commands deliverance for his *Iacob*: let the Sea worke and rage, and boyle and foame, and swell vp to Heaven, his word makes all hush. But what doe I preventing my selfe? Let vs leaue dilating on this Subject to his proper place; and now make application of the point, and grow to that cōclusion which *this day* doth witnesse, and proclaime to the whole world.

Reason.

Looke backe my Brethren, remember those *Marian* dayes, that bloody *Quinquiesimum*, what a desperate pinch were wee brought to in time of that persecution? What massacring? What butchering? What Bonnering? What burning of those chaste *Virgins* that would not prostitute their soules to that *Whore of Babylon*? that would not licke vp their filthy vomit, disgorged in the dayes of King *Ed-*

Nero his *Quinquiesimum* famous for those sparkles of humanitie; that of *Q. Mary* contrary,

Sanguis Martyrum; semen Ecclesie.

Fox, in his Acts & Mon.

So the Father of Iulian the Apostate; nubecula est cito transibit.

Their shippes were cast into the forme of a halfe-Moone.

ward? What streets did not flame with fires? What faggots did not fry the bones of those mis-called Heretickes? What Citty? What Towne? What Village was not watered with the blood, enlightened with the flames of those constant crowned Martyrs? The mercies of the wicked are cruell, (as the wise King obserues,) as those barbarous savage Tyger-tyrants, made it too true, who to shew themselves more mercilesse then the mercilesse Elements (fire and water) retorted that *Infant* into the *Mothers flames*, which the very fire as a *mercifull Midwife* had delivered from the *Mothers wombe*. Now they insulted, cracking what a sure foundation was laid for vnder-setting, and propping vp their newly repaired wals of *Iericho*; now they applaud their owne wits, that had vndermined the *Gospel* (vnder the name of *Heresie*) so as it should never be able to peepe forth, or hold vp head in the professors thereof.

Thus when all was desperate in the eye of flesh, how suddainly was the streame turned? how suddainly was that storme of blood blowne over? their high wals so lately daubed vp with vntempered morter, how did they fall in a moment, being quashed to powder? and themselves with all their rubbidge sent packing over Seas. What a desperate exigent were we brought to, when that strange *Horned Moone* appeared on our Coastes; when that *Invincible Armado* of *Spaine* (as they stiled it) was ready to encircle our Nation. The enemy like that great *Leviathan* had in conceit drawne vp our *Jordan* into his nostrils, so had he deuoured vs in his hopes,

hopes, that already (*ante victoriam triumphum canit*) he sings the Triumph before a stroke was stricken; and at the putting on of his Armour, boasts as he that puts it off. The mother of *Sisera* looked out at the Window, and cryed through the Lattesse; *Why is his Chariot so long in coming? Why tarry the Wheeles of his Chariot: Her wise Ladies answered, yea, shee turned and answered her selfe; haue they not sped, haue they not diuided the prey to euery man a damosell or two? to Sisera a prey of diuers colours, of diuers colours of needle-worke, fit for the neckes of them that take the spoile.* Thus they solaced themselves, when loe how all their hopes vanished into smoake. The Sunne, Moone, and Starres in their courses, the windes, waters, all fight for our England. The Lord over-throwes the horse and his rider, and drownes this blazing Comet in the wide Ocean, which drew the eyes of all the world to see the success of that prodigious meteor, that as some dreamed, others feared, *Babylon* wished, presaged a fatall period to the *English Isle and Empire.* So true is the word of the Lord by his Prophet; *WE passed through the water, yet did not the floods over-flow vs.*

What a desperate pinch were wee brought to this fifth day of *November*? Now wee were in the fire indeed; a fire kindled in Hell, a sulphurean fire, into which not the *Three Children*, but the *Three States of our Realme*, were enwrapped and all bound together, to haue perished with one cracke. Let vs pause here, and consider the Danger of our extremitie, that wee may be stirred vp the more feelingly, and heartily, to magnifie the mercy, power, and

The Church
of Rome,

Iud. 5. 28. 29.
30.

and goodnesse of the *Lord*, manifested in our delivery.

Consider { How cunningly it was contrived.
How cruelly it was intended.
How nearly archieued.
How miraculously discovered.

For the cunning in contriving; what secrecy of place? What secrecy of persons?

1

The place, a place of darkenesse, and therefore fit for a worke of darkenesse; the secrecy of the place seemed to invite them to this bloody designe; even as the opportunitie of time, smiled vpon them, and promised to be the unhappie Midwife to deliver the Actors (now bigge with their conception) of this monstrous burden. Let me now take you hand in hand, and lead you to this *darke Caue*, this *hollow denne*, this *fiery Aetna*, this *tormenting Tophet*; I know not what to call it, *Grammar*, *Logicke*, *Rhetoricke*, all are posed, no *Art* can yeeld a word emphaticall enough for this *Artificiall Phalarian invention*. A *strange Engin*, it was invented for the torment of Innocents, but (as that of *Phaleris*) turned to the torment of the Inventors. See here what *Barrels of Powder* packed close together? What *piles of wood* billeted over those *Barrels*? What *barres of iron* mingled with those *piles*? Of all resemblances methinks a *Tophet* fits it best; See the description of *Tophet*, and paralell them. *Isaiah. 30. 33.* *Tophet is ordained of old, yea for the King it is prepared; he hath made it deepe and large, the pile thereof is fire and much wood, the breath of the Lord like a streame of brimstone doth*

Isa. 30. 33.

doth kindle it. Loe here a right *Tophet*, ordained of old, hatched in the latter yeares of the raigne of our late Queene *Elizabeth*; prepared not by *God*, but by *Men*; not by *Men*, but by *Devils*; Was it not digged deepe? and made large, made for the *King*, yea and *Queene*, *Prince*, *Prelates*, *Lords*, *Commons*, all; the burning of it was fire and much wood, a *streame of Powder*, as a river of brimston was to kindle it, a right *Tophet*. Some place *Hell* in the Center or midst of the earth, here you might haue found it somewhat beneath the superficies of the earth. Thus were their villanies buried in the bowels of the earth, *they digge deepe to hide their Councell from God and Man.* Isa. 29. 15.

The persons will be as secret as the place; these *Catholike* conspirators, to make all sure, to sowe their lips fast, sweare a silence, and binde that *Oath with the Sacrament*. O flagitious vnheard-of impietie! *God* himselfe (will he, nill he) must haue as much as in them lay, an hand in this *transcendent Treason*; let no man henceforth wonder at the fury of that *Romish Cataline*, who forced his followers to pledge each other in *Healths of humane blood*. Behold here that *Romish Catesby*, with his Complices, take the *Blood of God* (at least his *Body*) and as they maintaine it, the reall essentiall blood of *God* must be caroused, to glue vp their lips, and the discovery of this *Hellish Designe*.

Thus closely and covertly was it carriod, so lapped in the mantle of darkenesse, that none but the *Deuill* as they gaue it out (*the Lord was farre from*
 F their

2

Deut. 4. 32.

their thoughts) could unpaile it, and plucke off the maske from this Hagge; yet was their crueltie no whit inferior to their secrecy. Let me begin in the words of Moses; Aske of the dayes of old that haue bin since God created man vpon the earth, from one end of Heaven vnto the other, if there came to passe such a great thing as this, or ever the like was heard of; Search all *Chronicles*, turne over the *Records* of all Nations; no age, no story, humane or divine, can march this matchlesse president, so that wee may well take vp the Heathen *Poets* complaint.

Andax omnia perpeti gens humana

Gens humana ruit per scelus vetitum nescit nefas.

2 Sam. 16.

2 Sam. 15. 31.

Eph. 3. 8.

The Treason of *Absolon*; the Conspiracy of *Achitophel*; the Coniuration of *Cataline*; the Machination of *Haman*, to roote out the whole Nation of the *Iewes*; the Massacre of *France*; the Slaughter of the *Indies*; wherein worldes of people were most cruelly made away: all haïnous transcendent crimes, all fall short of this. *Nero* that Spung of Bloud and Monster of Men, as the Stories record, wished, all the people of *Rome* had had but one head, that he might chop it off at a blow: that which was but desired of *Nero*, was not only, but plotted, and attempted by these sanguineous *Antichristian* *Neroes*, had their plot taken effect, not the head of *Rome*, but of *England* had beene cut off at a Blow. *Nero* caused the Citie of *Rome* to be fired, and laid the blame on the *Christians*. If their traine had blowne vp our Church and

and State, the imputation of so foule a fact by these equivocating *Catholikes*, must haue beene cast on the *Puritans*. Three famous kingdomes by a blessed Peace-maker, vnited into one happy Monarchy, *Vno actu tactu tactu*, with one blow, and blast in a day, an houre, a moment, had perished, ere they knew who hurt them: no sect, no sex, no person, nor age might be spared, no not those of their owne Religion, the Powder, like the Duke of Medina his Sword, would haue knowne no difference betweene Protestant and Papist. The Kings Maieslie, the Golden Head of this Land, the Lords Anointed, and the breath of our nostrils; His deare Queene, the Roote that bare so royall stems; His Princely heire, the pledge of our succeeding hopes; the Honorable Councell, the eye of our Land, the Noble Lords and Barons, the Shields and shouldrers of our Land, the Reverend Bishops and Cleargie, the Chariots and Horsemen of Israel; the graue Sages and Iudges, the Handes of our Land for execution of Iustice; the flower of our Gentry and Commons, the feete of this Land; roote and branch, Priest and people; Head, roote, branches, eyes, shouldrers, armes, tongues, handes, feete, all, all should haue beene torne vp and mounted on high, to fall headlong, their carkasses mangled, the sheepe brained and burnt by an unheard-of kinde of execution. In their wrath they digged downe a wall, and in their anger would take away a whole nation as one man, Cursed be their anger for it was fierce, and their wrath for it was cruell; into their secrets let not the righteous enter, my soule be not thou ioyned with their Assemblies.

These be
your chari-
table *Cathe-
likes*.

3

How neare was it come even to the point of execution? the *Children were at the birth*; wee had but the burning of a *match* to liue; not a *haire's-breadth* betweene vs and this *Death*, these *flames*.

4

How miraculously was the plot discovered? how opportunely were the traytors defeated? the wisdom of the *King came from the inspiration of the Almighty*; strange it is to consider, what *English* his *Maiesty* did pick out of a dark and *Enigmaticall* letter, going against all Grammaticall construction; He that sits in Heaven, made their owne handes and Pens to bewray all; so the *Preacher*, *Curse not the King, no not in thy thought, for the fowle of the Heauen shall carry it; and that which hath wings shall declare the matter*. If the Lord had not now beene with vs, among vs, for vs, and put a word of *Divination* into the lippes of our gracious *Soveraigne*, wee had all beene long ere this as *Sodom and Gomorrha*. *King, Prince, Nobles, Peeres, Prelates, Iudges, Gentry, Commons*; Our peace, plentie, the Gospel of peace (the comfort of our lines, and the life of all our comforts) all had vanished into *Ash-heapes*. Thus am I fallen vpon the *Author* of this Great Deliverance; who kept vs in this fire, that the flame did not so much as kindle vpon vs. So literally are the words of this *Prophecie* fulfilled of this *Church and State*, who kept vs? *Iehovah*, saith my Text, *Iehovah* saith this day; *I will be with thee*.

Ecclef. 10. 20.

Prov. 16. 10.

Exod. 14. 25.

The *safetie* of the *Church* consists in the presence of the Lord. *Iehovah* is that *Clond* which gives light to the *Israelites*, strikes terror into the *Egyptians*, and takes

takes off the *Wheeles of their Chariots*. *Iehovah* is that *Wall of fire* that fenceth his elect, and consumes his enemies; the Lord is my *Rocke*, my *Fortresse*, so *David*. The name of the Lord is a strong Tower, into which the righteous Nation shall enter, so *Salomon*. This Tower is invincible, this *Bulwarke* impregnable; this *Fortresse* is out of Gun-shot, and therefore cannot be battered; this *Wall* reacheth higher then the *Heavens*, and therefore cannot be scaled. The Lord is ever with his *Church*, what he speaks of the *Temple*, the type of the *Church*; needs must it be verified of the *Church*, the truth of that type. 2 Chro. 7. 16. *I have chosen this place, that my name may be there for ever, and mine eyes, and my heart shall be there perpetually.* There is he present and resident, and that not as a naked *Spectator*, to behold their miseries, but as a tender *Father*, as a mightie *Saviour*. As a tender *Father*, commiserating their distresses, caring the cares, grieving the griefes, and fearing the feares of his chosen; In all their troubles he is troubled. When the foote was trod vpon in earth, the Head cries from *Heaven*, *Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me.*

Prov. 18. 10.

Mat. 28. 10.

Isa. 63. 9.

Acts. 9. 4.

He is present, secondly, as an *Almightie* powerful *Saviour*; is there any thing too hard for him? Is his arme shortned? Did not he wound *Rahab*? Smite the *Dragon*, overthrow the horse and his rider, make a path in the great *Water*, and allay the beate of the fire? He works with meanes, without meanes, against means, and doth what ever he will in heaven or earth. Hath not he set bounds to the *Sea*, though it rage and

Iob. 38. 12.

Iob. 1.

foame, here it must stay, thus farre it shall come, and no farther, here the proud waues must be broken. Hath not he *Satan* in a chaine, and all his instruments, that they cannot plucke a haire from the head of his servants, without his leave and licence?

Vse 1.

Si Deus nobiscum, quis contra nos?

Rom. 8. 31.

Behold now the safetie, the securitie of the Church: if God be with vs, who shall be against vs? If God be with vs, what need we feare what man can doe vnto vs, men or Devils? No maruaile if the Prophet command, feare not. He that is thus guided,

Isa. 51. 12. 13

thus guarded, how can he feare or faint? So the same Prophet, Chap. 51. Vers. 12. 13. *I, even I am he that comfort thee, who art thou that thou shouldest be afraid of a man, and of the sonne of man, which shall be made as grasse; and forgettest the Lord thy Maker, &c. Iehovah hath vndertaken to be the Lord Protector, or Lord-keeper of his Red vine. Isaiah. 27. 3. I the Lord doe watch over it by night and by day; Hee will defend it against secret trecheries, these are night-assaults; against open Hostilities, these are day-assaults. What though the Ramping Lyon goe about continually, seeking whom he may deuoure? Is not the Lyon of the Tribe of Iudah as vigilant to defend, as Satan to assault? The destroyer of Israel never slumbreth nor sleepeth; no more doth the keeper of Israel, he also never sleepeth, never slumbreth. Let their enemies be never so many, all nations to him are but as the dust of the Balance, the drop of a Bucket, as nothing, lesse then naught. Let their enemies be never so mightie, he hath their hearts in his hand, can turne them as the Rivers of waters, and make our*

1 Pet. 5. 8.

Psal. 121. 4.

Isa. 40. 15.

our enemies at peace with vs, changing their stabs in- Ier. 33. 4.
to kisses: he hath their heads in his hand, and can
infatuate the wiliest Herod, the craftiest Achitophel,
turning their Councells into folly; he hath their Hands
and Hornes in his hand, and can either binde them to
their good behaviour, or knocke out the Teeth of gra-
tors before they bite; let them digge deepe, to hide
their plots, the Lord will goe beyond them; let
them ioyne hand to hand, they shall not prosper: Wee
may say it, wee may sweare it, wee must beleue it, Prov. 11. 31.
wee haue had experience (never any Church more
of the like) what it is to haue such a Protector,
whose power is vnresistable, his will vnchangeable,
his skill vnsearchable; whose Greatnesse is such, that
he can doe what he will; whose Goodnesse is such,
that he will doe what he can; and ever magnifie
both his Greatnesse and Goodnesse, in the protection of
his Israel, and in the conversion or confusion of his
enemies. Witnesse this day of dayes: on the mor-
ning of our fifth of November, they would haue
blowne vs up; on the evening of their fifth of No-
uember, God beate them downe.

Is Iehovah the Deliverer of his Israel? Why let Vse 2.
God then haue the Honor of his owne worke; not
our wit, not our wealth, not our goodnes, not our
greatnes, not our friends, not our Bulwarkes, but the
Lord onely; it was the Lords doing, let it euer be mar-
ueilous in our eyes: This is the Day which the Lord Psal. 118. 23.
hath made, let vs be glad and reioyce. 24.
Let the wicked
Politician, the Machiuelian Atheist sacrifice to their
owne nets. We will cry with that Kingly Prophet, not
vnto

Psal. 18.

Ps. 124. 1. 2. 3.

unto vs, not unto vs ô Lord, but unto thy Name, wee
 give the glory. (*Totum hoc quatumcunque sit quod certè
 maximum est, totum est tuum*) the whole prayse of
 so glorious a rescue, how great so euer it be, which
 indeede is exceeding great, is onely due to Iehovah.
 Let the King say it is the Lord that giueth great deli-
 uerances unto his David, and sheweth mercy to his an-
 nointed, and his seede for ever. Let the Great Peeres
 and Princes say it is not our Arme that hath saued
 vs, not our mighty strength, but the Strength of Israel
 Iehovah. Let the House of Aaron say and sing prayses,
 sing prayses vnto the Lord that hath done wisely, dis-
 covered our enemies, broken their snares, and we are
 escaped. Let all Eng^land say if the Lord, had not
 beene on our side, if the Lord had not beene on our side,
 when men rose up against vs, they had swallowed vs up
 quicke, when their wrath was kindled against vs.
 Praise waiteth for thee O God in Sion, who is like
 our God who doth great and wondrous things. Hono-
 red for euer be that Noble and Honorable Society (*The
 High Court of Parliament*) that to all ages hath set a
 Day apart, for the Honor of that God, who is the Pro-
 tector of his Sion, the Detector the Destroyer of his
 and their implacable enemies : Goe on still O Noble
 Senate, let King, Prince, Peeres, Prelats, Commons, all
 conspire to honor the God of heaven by enacting such
 solemne Panagerickes to Iehovah; and the God of honor
 will honor You, this Church, this State, your Posterity,
 the Generation to come, shall blesse God for the deli-
 uerance of this Day; for the Record of this Deli-
 uerance, for this publicke gratulation vpon Record.
 Blef-

Blessed be that God which hath put it into the heart of that Great Assembly, with an vnanimous and free consent to enact it for a Law in Israel, and an Ordinance in Iacob for euer. If euer we forget this mercy, let our tongues cleaue to the roofof our mouthes, and our armes rott from our Shoulders, Let all faithfull, loyall, true hearted English Protestants, with one heart and voice cry, Amen, Amen.

Finally, doth the security of the Church, State, all lie in the presence of God? Where God is, there is no danger; as where hee is not, no safetie; O keepe him while we haue him, driue him not from you, who is our Buckler, our shield, all in all vnto vs: keepe him in his Word, in his Sabbath, in his Ordinances, and he will keepe you. Would you know in a word, what driues the Lord from a land, a people, sinne; nothing but sinne can doe it, and sinne will doe it; your sinnes haue seperated betweene me and you; where sinne is countenanced, maintained, multiplied, there is no Harbor for the Almighty. He is a God of purer eyes then to behold iniquitie, what communion betweene God and Beliall, light and darkenesse, Christ and Antichrist? Sinne chales the Lord away, and leaues that person, that Nation naked, vnfenced, exposed to the malice of men, to the fury of Satan, to the flames of hell. Every wilfull sinner is a Traytor to God, his King, and Countrey, as well as to his owne soule. Away with beloued darling sinnes: away with those wasting King - killing State - ruinating sinnes: Idolatry, contempt of Gods

Iſa. 59. 2.

Hab. 1. 13.

2 Cor. 6. 14.
15.

word, worship, Sacraments, Sabbath, Ministers; scandalous enormous impieties, *cut-facing Authority*; these if they should be found among vs, will kindle a *flame* in our Cities, Countrey, a worse then *Powder-flame*, that shall burne to the bottome of hell.

If we our selues betray not our *soules*, our *Church*, our *State*, our *Kingdome*, in vaine shall the *Gates of Rome* repine at the prosperitie of *England*; if wee pull not downe our owne walls with our owne handes, no *Engins of theirs* shall ever batter them; if wee doe not open the *fluces*, and *flood-gates*, the *Invdations* of that *Romish Nilus*, with her *marish waters*, shall never over-flow our bankes; If wee carry not *Flax, Tinder, Gun-powder*, in our owne bosomes, and strike not fire with our owne fingers, their *matches* shall never take, their *sparkles* shall not burne, the *flame* shall not kindle upon vs.

For Gods- sake therefore, for your *soules-sake*, for your *Countreys-sake*; if you loue your *King*, *Countrey*, *peace*, *plentie*, the *Gospell of peace*, your *goods*, *friends*, *children*, away with the toleration, dispensation of knowne, grosse, scandalous, notorious, enormous Impieties; maintaine a perpetuall correspondence with your *Heavenly Father*; be in league with *Heaven*; delight to Honour him, his *Name*, *Word*, *Worshippe*, *Sacraments*, *Sabbaths*, *Messengers*, that hee may delight to Watch over you; Serue him who saved vs, and therefore saved vs (that wee being redeemed
from

from the handes of our enemies, such subtle,
cruell, barbarous, savage enemies) might *serue*
him without feare all the dayes of our life,
in holinesse and righteousnesse before
him. Blessed are the people,
who are in such a case,
who haue the Lord
for their God.
(. .)

FINIS.

